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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: October 13, 2006

Name: Craig A. Summerfield

Signature: *Craig A. Summerfield*

**BRINKS
HOFLER
GILSON
& LIONE**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: HOFLER, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/588,241

Filed: August 1, 2006

For: CONNECTION SYSTEM FOR CONNECTING AT
LEAST ONE CONTACT OF AT LEAST ONE FLAT
BLOCK OF COMPONENTS TO AT LEAST ONE
APPARATUS

Examiner: TBA

Art Unit: TBA

Attorney Docket No: 11371-129 (2003P12333WOUS)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs), Form PTO-1449 (1 pg), Required Cited References (A1-A2)
☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

- ☐ No additional fee is required.
☐ Small Entity.
☐ An extension fee in an amount of \$_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
☐ A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$_____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(____).
☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$25=			x \$50=	
Indep.		Minus			x 100=			x \$200=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=			+\$360=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

Fee payment:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.
☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$_____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

13 Oct. 2006
Date

Craig A. Summerfield
Craig A. Summerfield (Reg. No. 37,947)

BRINKS HOFLER GILSON & LIONE
NBC Tower – Suite 3600, 455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive, Chicago, IL 60611-5599

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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ONE APPARATUS

Attorney Docket No: 11371-129
(2003P12333WOUS)

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and more particularly in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), Applicants hereby cite the following reference(s):

OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Zero insertion Force website page: http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zero_insertion_Force, Aug. 9, 2006 (and similar English edition)

Written Opinion Report for PCT/EP2004/053725 (and English translation)

Applicant is enclosing Form PTO-1449 (one sheet), along with a copy of each listed reference for which a copy is required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2). Also enclosed are; (1) an International Written Opinion Report and an English translation thereof for the priority application having the same or similar claims as the current application and (2) a Zero Insertion Force article in German, the relevance thereof being provided by the enclosed similar English edition.

By submitting this Statement, Applicants are attempting to fully comply with the duty of candor and good faith mandated by 37 C.F.R. §1.56. As such, this Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any of the enclosed references, or other

information referred to therein, constitutes "prior art" or is otherwise "material to patentability," as that phrase is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).

Applicants have calculated no fee to be due in connection with the filing of this Statement. However, the Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency associated with the filing of this Statement to a deposit account, as authorized in the Transmittal accompanying this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

13 Oct. 2006
Date



Craig A. Summerfield (Reg. No. 37,947)



FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/588,241	CASE NO. 13371-129 (2003P12333WOUS)
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	FILING DATE August 1, 2006	GROUP ART UNIT To Be Assigned
APPLICANT(S): HOFLEER et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS (Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)	
	A1	Zero insertion Force website page: http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zero_insertion_Force , Aug. 9, 2006 (and similar English edition)
	A2	Written Opinion Report for PCT/EP2004/053725 (and English translation of)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.